

Message Text

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ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-01 SAM-01 L-01 SS-15

SP-02 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 MC-01

ACDA-05 EB-04 DRC-01 /059 W
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R 240952Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 841

INFO DOD ISA DSAA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

HQ DA DAMO-SSA WASHDC

S E C R E T LISBON 4606

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PO

SUBJ: MAP AIR DEFENSE AND MISSILE TRAINING FOR

PORTUGUESE ARMY

SUMMARY: SINCE NOVEMBER 1972, THE PORTUGUESE ARMY HAS CONTINUED TO MANIFEST A STRONG INTEREST IN OBTAINING A QUOTA FOR THE U.S. ARMY AIR DEFENSE ADVANCED OFFICER COURSE. ALTHOUGH STRONGLY SUPPORTED BY THIS MISSION AND HQ USEUCOM, EACH REQUEST FROM THE PORTUGUESE ARMY WAS UNFAVORABLY CONSIDERED AT DEPARTMENTS OF THE ARMY AND DEFENSE LEVELS. THIS, BECAUSE OF CURRENT PROHIBITIONS ON TRAINING FOREIGN NATIONALS ON CERTAIN U.S. WEAPON SYSTEMS THAT ARE NOT IN THE INVENTORY OF THE TRAINEE'S GOVERNMENT, OR FOR WHICH THAT GOVERNMENT HAS NOT MADE VALID OFFERS OR ATTEMPTS TO OBTAIN. END SUMMARY

1. THE PORTUGUESE ARMY'S HIGH LEVEL INTEREST IN AIR DEFENSE TRAINING IS READILY EVIDENCED FROM THE FOLLOWING CHRONOLOGY:

A. NOVEMBER 1972-TRAINING DIVISION OF PORTUGUESE ARMY GENERAL STAFF REQUESTED FROM THIS MAAG ONE SPACE FOR FY 74 AIR DEFENSE ADVANCED OFFICER COURSE. SUBSEQUENT TO THIS DATE, REQUESTS WERE MADE BY THIS MISSION IN AN EFFORT

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TO OBTAIN AN EXCEPTION TO THE NATIONAL DISCLOSURE POLICY.

B. OCTOBER 1973-DURING MAJOR GENERAL GEORGE S. PATTON'S (DIRECTOR J7 SECURITY ASSISTANCE, HQ USEUCOM) VISIT TO PORTUGAL, THE VICE-CHIEF OF STAFF, PORTUGUESE ARMY REQUESTED ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING AIR DEFENSE TRAINING THROUGH THE MAP.

C. NOVEMBER 1973- LETTER RECEIVED BY MAAG FROM PORTUGUESE ARMY VICE-CHIEF OF STAFF TO CHIEF MAAG FORMALLY REQUESTING INSTRUCTION IN TACTICAL EMPLOYMENT OF BOTH SURFACE-TO-SURFACE AND SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILES AT DIVISION AND CORPS LEVELS. BASED ON THIS REQUEST, ADDITIONAL REQUESTS FOR THIS TRAINING WERE SENT TO HQ USEUCOM AND DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY. HQ USEUCOM SUPPORTED THE REQUEST AND RECOMMENDED FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION.

D. DECEMBER 1973-HQ USEUCOM REQUESTED REPLY FROM DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY ON THEIR NOVEMBER MESSAGE. DURING THIS SAME PERIOD, THE PORTUGUESE ARMY GENERAL STAFF FORMALLY REQUESTED THAT THE AIR DEFENSE OFFICERS ADVANCED COURSE HE INCLUDED IN THE FY 75 AND 76 MAP TRAINING PROGRAMS.

E. MARCH 1974- PORTUGUESE ARMY VICE-CHIEF OF STAFF REQUESTED AIR DEFENSE TRAINING IN THE FY 75 MAP TRAINING PROGRAM.

F. AUGUST 1974- PERSONAL MESSAGE SENT FROM RADM R.B. ERLY, CHIEF MAAG, TO MAJOR GENERAL R.D. CLELAND, DIRECTOR STRATEGY AND SECURITY ASSISTANCE (DAMO-SSA), DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, WITH INFO CY TO MG C.W. RYDER, DIRECTOR LOGISTICS AND SECURITY ASSISTANCE (J4/J7) HQ USEUCOM, RECOMMENDING THAT PORTUGUESE ARMY OFFICERS BE AUTHORIZED TO ATTEND U.S. ARMY AIR DEFENSE INSTRUCTION. THIS MESSAGE WAS ACKNOWLEDGED WITH THE INDICATION THAT DOD WOULD NOT HONOR A REQUEST WHICH IS IN CONTRAVENTION OF NATIONAL DISCLOSURE POLICIES.

ALTERNATE COURSES WERE RECOMMENDED HOWEVER BECAUSE PORTUGUESE STUDENTS WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND APPROXIMATELY 10 PER CENT OF THE CLASSIFIED PORTIONS OF THESE COURSES. THEAL-
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TERNATIVES WERE NOT CONSIDERED DESIRABLE. IN RESPONSE TO THE RECOMMENDATION IN ABOVE MESSAGE, THE MAAG DRAFTED A LETTER TO THE PORTUGUESE ARMY, PROPOSING THESE ALTERNATIVES AND ADDING THE POSSIBILITY OF INTRODUCING A MOBILE TRAINING TEAM (MTT). THIS DRAFT LETTER WAS SENT TO HQ USEUCOM WITH A REQUEST FOR APPROVAL PRIOR TO DELIVERY TO THE PORTUGUESE ARMY.

G. SEPTEMBER 1974-THE LETTER WAS APPROVED BY HQ USEUCOM. IT HAS NOT BEEN DELIVERED TO THE PORTUGUESE ARMY BECAUSE IT IS BELIEVED THAT IT WOULD BE RECEIVED AS A NEGATIVE SIGNAL.

2. THIS MISSION BELIEVES THAT THE PORTUGUESE ARMY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO UPGRADE AND STRENGTHEN ITS NATO CONTRIBUTION UNLESS IT RECEIVES CURRENT INSTRUCTION ON THE TECHNIQUES AND EMPLOYMENT OF AIR DEFENSE SYSTEMS. FURTHER, BECAUSE THIS IS SUCH A DECISIVE PERIOD IN PORTUGAL, IT WOULD BE BOTH ECONOMICALLY DISCREET AND EVIDENTLY PRACTICAL THAT THIS TRAINING BE OFFERED TO THEM BY THE UNITED STATES. A TURN-DOWN AT THIS TIME COULD IMPACT SIGNIFICANTLY ON GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND POSSIBLY CAUSE THE PORTUGUESE ARMY TO LOOK ELSEWHERE FOR ASSISTANCE IN THEIR FUTURE ACQUISITION OF MATERIEL. ADDITIONALLY, THE PORTUGUESE ARMY HAS RECENTLY DEMONSTRATED AN AGGRESSIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD THE EXPANSION AND IMPROVEMENT OF A MORE EFFECTIVE MAP TRAINING PROGRAM. A CONTINUED DISAPPROVAL OF SUBJECT TRAINING MAY CREATE A DECELERATION OR COMPLETE CESSATION OF THEIR NOW MORE POSITIVE OUTLOOK ON THIS MATTER. IT MUST BE CLEARLY NOTED THAT THE PORTUGUESE DISPOSITION IS SUCH THAT ALLOWING THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN ONLY 90 PER CENT OF A COURSE WOULD MOST LIKELY CREATE MORE HARM THAN GOOD.

3. THIS MISSION RECOMMENDS THAT THE PORTUGUESE REQUEST FOR A QUOTA FOR THE U.S. ARMY AIR DEFENSE ADVANCED OFFICER COURSE BE HONORED IN ORDER THAT A STRONGER ORIENTATION TO THE U.S. IS DEVELOPED, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME CONSTRUCTING A POSSIBLE MARKET-PLACE FOR U.S.-MANUFACTURED MATERIEL.
SCOTT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONNEL TRAINING, MILITARY PLANS, MISSILES, AIR FORCE, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LISBON04606
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740303-1108
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741020/aaaaaquj.tel
Line Count: 145
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 MAY 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <11 MAR 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MAP AIR DEFENSE AND MISSILE TRAINING FOR PORTUGUESE ARMY
TAGS: MASS, PO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005